

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

## **Patent Abstracts of Japan**

PUBLICATION NUMBER : 11089559  
PUBLICATION DATE : 06-04-99

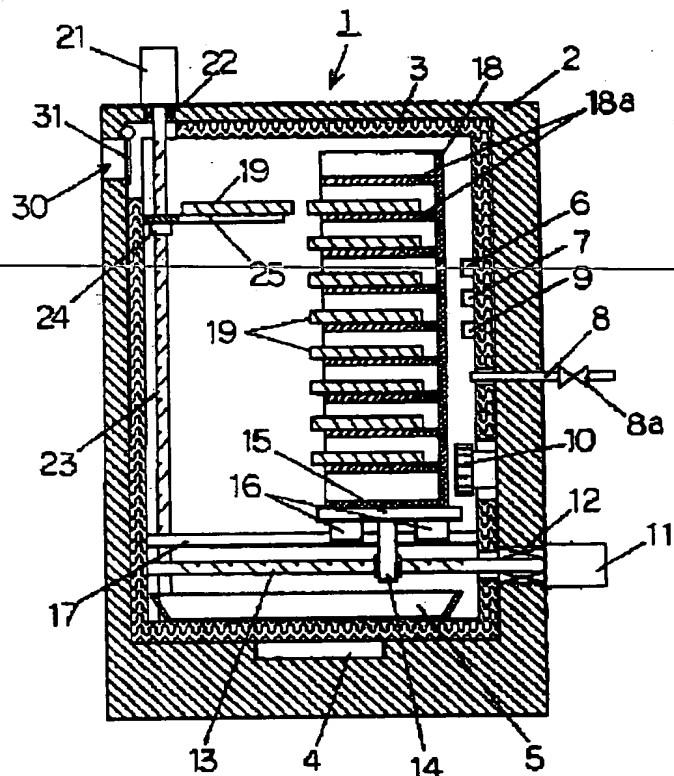
APPLICATION DATE : 25-09-97  
APPLICATION NUMBER : 09259610

APPLICANT : MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD;

**INVENTOR :** HIGUCHI AKIRA;

INT.CL. : C12M 1/36 B01L 11/02 G01N 35/00

**TITLE** : INCUBATOR



**ABSTRACT :** PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide an incubator less in variations in environmental conditions at the inside thereof on putting samples in and out, and capable of performing highly reliable tests.

**SOLUTION:** This incubator capable of adjusting inside temperature, humidity and CO<sub>2</sub> gas concentration, is obtained by forming a shelf 18 for housing multiple microplates 19 of samples as movable in front and rear directions with a motor 18 and a feeding screw 23. A conveying plate 25 capable of being lifted up and down is installed at the front surface of the shelf 18 for loading the microplates 19 on the conveying plate 25 from a conveying in and out port 30 on conveying in the microplates 19, and conveying the microplates 19 to each of the stages of the shelf 18 and delivering the microplates 19 on the conveying plate 25 to a housing part of the shelf 18 by moving the shelf 18 in front and rear directions. Thereby, it is possible to minimize the size of the opening part for conveying the samples in and out and suppress the variation in the environmental conditions by suppressing the disturbance due to an outside cause.

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